

Welcome to Good Shepherd Parish

December 14, 2025



THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT

Be strong, fear not! Here is your God, he comes with vindication;
with divine recompense he comes to save you.

Isaiah 35:4

Parish Office: (508) 650—3545

99 Main Street, Wayland, MA

GOOD SHEPHERD PARISH VISION STATEMENT

Good Shepherd Parish strives to be a vibrant, welcoming community where every person can experience the Father's love. Through the Gospel proclamation, prayer, and joyous sacramental celebration, Good Shepherd Parish will inspire parishioners to discern and live out their vocations and to actively evangelize the world. As we bear witness to the Risen Christ, Our Lord and Savior, we aspire to serve our parish community. We will seek to welcome home the new, the lost, and the disheartened by using the gifts and fruits of the Holy Spirit..

GOOD SHEPHERD PARISH MISSION STATEMENT

We, the Roman Catholic community of Good Shepherd Parish, strive to be a living sign of Christ's love in and for the world. In response to our Baptismal call, nourished by the Eucharist and guided by the values of the Second Vatican Council, we seek to continue the mission of Jesus Christ by welcoming, supporting and guiding all through prayer, sacramental celebration, service and education.

PARISH STAFF

Pastor:
Fr. Laurence "Ren" Tocci
Ext. 14
frren@goodshepherdwayland.org

Senior Priest in Residence:
Rev. Austin H. Fleming, M.A.
fraustin@goodshepherdwayland.org
Fr. Fleming's daily blog:
ConcordPastor.blogspot.com

Permanent Deacon:
Deacon Colm McGarry Ext. 22
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youthministrywayland@gmail.com

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Laurie Hojlo
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Communications & Sacramental Records:
Kat Holmstrom Ext. 13
kholmstrom@goodshepherdwayland.org

Administrative Assistant:
Vina Sousa Ext. 10
vsousa@goodshepherdwayland.org

Facilities Staff:
Steve McCarthy & Julio Pazmino Ext. 18

Parish Office Hours:
Monday—Thursday
9 AM—3 PM
Friday 9 AM—12 PM



ST. ANN CHURCH, 134 COCHITUATE RD, WAYLAND, MA



ST. ZEPHERIN CHURCH, 99 MAIN ST, WAYLAND, MA

Mass Times

Saturday, 4:00 PM St. Ann
Sunday, 8:30 AM St. Zepherin
Sunday, 10:30 AM St. Ann
Sunday, 5:30 PM St. Zepherin

Confession

Saturday, 3:00 –3:45 PM
St. Ann
(or by appointment)

Weekday Masses

Monday—Tuesday
9:00 AM St. Ann
Wednesday—Friday
9:00 AM St. Zepherin

Mass Intentions

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 13
4:00 PM
CHERYL KANE & RICHARD KANE, JR.
SUNDAY, DECEMBER 14
8:30 AM
JOHN & BRIDGET BRODY
10:30 AM
MARIA CURLEYI
5:30 PM
PEOPLE OF
GOOD SHEPHERD PARISH
MONDAY, DECEMBER 15
9:00 AM
GRETTA ROZARIO
WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 17
9:00 AM
MILLIE CHOINSKI &
RUTH (CHOINSKI) FORNES
THURSDAY, DECEMBER 18
9:00 AM
ANNE MEDEIROS
FRIDAY, DECEMBER 19
9:00 AM
VARKEY VATTAPPARA

Parish Calendar

TUESDAY DECEMBER 16
9:00 AM MASS CANCELLED

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 16
10:00 AM
BIBLE STUDY WITH PHEME
PARISH CENTER

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 18
PARISH PENANCE SERVICE
7:00 PM ST. ZEPHERIN
(ADORATION FOLLOWING)

O Come O Come Immanuel . . .

Back when I was teaching college, I would occasionally have these very rare moments of professional satisfaction. One of these occurred when I was teaching Virgil's *The Aeneid* in a World Literature class. I was trying to illustrate—literally—what Virgil was trying to accomplish in a certain passage by drawing on the chalkboard the scene he was describing. One student was reading the description, and I crudely sketched what she narrated. Suddenly, another student cried out “Oh!” She had gotten the point! I whirled on my heels, beamed a huge smile at her, and coaxed her into articulating what she had realized. I went to bed that night feeling like I'd earned my paycheck (as meager as it was) (I did work in a state school, after all . . .)

It's a simple exclamation, and in fact it means nothing. But it's come to express an excitement. In Elizabethan drama, like Shakespeare's, the emotional importance of that one syllable was so impactful that playwrights would write it differently depending on emphasis. “Oh” indicated just a short verbalization; but “O” meant the actor was to elongate the vowel, suggesting a more profound utterance of feeling. (What a difference an H makes . . .)

This week, as we round the bend closing in on Christmas Day, we begin what are called the “O antiphons.” This won't make much of a difference at Sunday Mass, but if you attend weekday Mass, you'll hear it just after the processional. Starting Wednesday (a week before Christmas Eve), we begin each Mass with a different exclamation:

O wisdom of our God most high

O Leader of the House of Israel

O Root of Jesse's stem

O Key of David

O Radiant dawn

O King of all nations and keystone of the Church

O Emmanuel, our King and Giver of Law

But each of these calls to our attention some aspect of who Jesus is for us. The wisdom of God (the Eternal Word of God); the Head of the House of Israel (leapfrogging over Abraham, Jacob, or Moses); the root of Jesse (David's father, which means the “son of David” is really the root of that family tree); the key of David's kingdom; the morning star; the ruler of all the world and the central point of His Church; and “God among us” who reigns and reveals to us God's Commandments.

Each of these is worth meditating on at some length. And in doing so, our knowledge and appreciation of Jesus our Savior is deepened.

But it's also worth noting that each expression begins with that excited exclamation “O.” We don't just dryly acknowledge Jesus as each of these things, or even all of them together; we sing out our expectation for His coming—the long-awaited arrival of God's wisdom, the daystar that gives eternal light, the keystone that holds the Church together, and most of all “God among us.”

Happy and blessed Gaudete Sunday, all!

~ Fr. Ren





A Place To Turn
an emergency food pantry

CLOTHING DRIVE

NEW SOCKS, UNDERGARMENTS, T-SHIRTS

CHILDREN'S & TEEN SIZES

PLACE UNWRAPPED ITEMS IN BAGS AND UNDER THE TREE

AT ST. ZEPHERIN

COLLECTING NOW THROUGH DEC. 21ST



Thank you to our Youth Group for their Thanksgiving Outreach to All Saints Parish, Haverhill!



Christmas Flowers Donation

Donation envelopes are available in the pews and church entrances. Please submit your donation by Wednesday, 12/17/2025. All names will be printed in the parish bulletin the weekend after Christmas. Thank you.

In the Spirit of the Season,
Our parish is currently supporting:

Breakfast with Santa for NPH USA
Sunday, December 7, 2025

My Brother's Table Food Pantry
at Good Shepherd Parish!

A Place To Turn clothing drive for Children & Teens
now through Dec. 21st under the Tree!

We met the goal for the Knights of Columbus'
Coats for Kids campaign! Thank you!

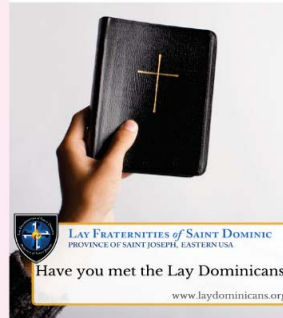
READINGS, SAINTS, OBSERVANCES 2025

SUNDAY Dec 14	Third Sunday of Advent Is 35:1-6a, 10/Ps 146:6-7, 8-9, 9-10./Jas 5:7-10/Mt 11:2-11
MONDAY Dec 15	Nm 24:2-7, 15-17a/Ps 25:4-5ab, 6 and 7bc, 8-9/Mt 21:23-27
TUESDAY Dec 16	Zep 3:1-2, 9-13/Ps 34:2-3, 6-7, 17-18, 19+23/Mt 21:28-32
WEDNESDAY Dec 17	Gn 49:2, 8-10/Ps 72:1-2, 3-4ab, 7-8, 17/Mt 1:1-17
THURSDAY Dec 18	Jer 23:5-8/Ps 72:1-2, 12-13, 18-19/Mt 1:18-25
FRIDAY Dec 19	Jgs 13:2-7, 24-25a/Ps 71:3-4a, 5-6ab, 16-17/Lk 1:5-25
SATURDAY Dec 20	Is 7:10-14/Ps 24:1-2, 3-4ab, 5-6/Lk 1:26-38
SUNDAY Dec 21	Fourth Sunday of Advent Is 7:10-14/Ps 24:1-2, 3-4, 5-6./Rom 1:1-7/Mt 1:18-24

Pilot Bulletins

ADVENT

**TO PRAISE,
BLESS,
PREACH**



"To praise, to bless, to preach."
This is the motto of the Dominican Order, and a particular invitation for all of us during this time of expectation.

During Advent, the Church asks us to prepare for the coming of Christ-- not just in a historical remembrance of His birth at Christmas, but in the very real sense that we are waiting for Jesus to come back! As members of the Dominican Family, your local fraternity of Lay Dominicans invites you to contemplate what it would mean to live each day of Advent expecting Christ to come *again*, to finally fulfill His promise to establish the fullness of the Kingdom of God.

Would you praise God *in expectation*?
Would you bless His Holy Name *in a spirit of joyful longing*?
Would you preach His reign, *from now until the end of time*?

Maranatha! Lord Jesus: come!

For information about the Lay Fraternities of St. Dominic, please visit www.boston3op.com
Mrs. Mikayla Dalton, O.P.
(fraternity president) at mikayla.v.dalton@gmail.com



Bible Study

Join us for a six-week exploration of the Bible:
"Believe: Meeting Jesus in the Scriptures"

Open to ALL!

Each of the sessions focuses on an encounter
 when Jesus changed someone's life and
 how it might relate to our life experiences.

Wednesday evenings:

Dec. 3rd & 10th

Jan. 7th, 14th, 21st, & 28th

St. Zepherin Parish Center

7:00 - 8:30 PM



Parish Offertory Commitment Program

Many thanks to all the families who had mailed their pledge expressing their support to the parish in FY 2026.

The pledge is non-binding but gives the parish an idea of what it may receive this year.

If you haven't yet done so, please complete a pledge and return it to our parish office. Blank pledges are available by the entrances of the church.

Your intentional, consistent support is greatly appreciated. Please know you are welcome to adjust your giving as your circumstances dictate.

All parishioners and benefactors are ever in our prayers and are integral to this parish's ability to serve the community. Thank you for your support!



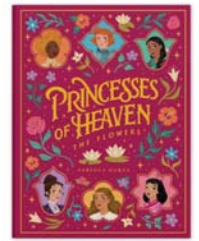
*A heartfelt thank you
 to all our
 parishioners for
 your wonderful
 support of the
 Breakfast with
 Santa fundraiser for
 NPH!*



GOOD SHEPHERD PARISH LIBRARY

*located at St. Ann Church
 across from the confessional*

**Please feel free to come
 visit our bookshelves and
 check out a book!**



For your convenience, the library
 will be accessible
Mondays, Tuesdays & Thursdays
 from 9:30 AM - 3 PM
Saturdays from 10 AM - MASS time



Breakfast with Santa

Because of your generosity, the morning was filled with joy, laughter, and the true spirit of the season.

Families enjoyed a festive breakfast, decorated cookies, colored holiday cards for the kids at NPH, and of course the children were thrilled to meet Santa, Mrs. Claus, and one of Santa's cheerful elves! Fun was had by all, and your participation helped make a meaningful difference in the lives of the children served by NPH. Funds raised from this year's event will be going to support the NPH Guatemala vocational training program, that offers 5 vocational training areas that include cooking, baking, sewing, blacksmith and carpentry, to 130 adolescents. We heard from Alexis, who grew up in the NPH home in Guatemala, about the difference the vocational school has made in his life.

We extend our heartfelt thanks to the local businesses whose generosity helped make the event such a success—Russell's Garden Shop, Charlie Estes Golf Pro, Femiluxe Nail Salon, Silk Veterinary Hospital, Spark Salon, and Stop & Shop. We are also deeply grateful to the many Faith Formation families who donated items for our raffle baskets, the Knights of Columbus for providing and cooking the food, and the Youth Ministry members who helped with cookie decorating, table setup, and serving. Your kindness and teamwork made a big difference!

Thank you again for helping us support the children of NPH. May God bless you abundantly this Advent season!

There is still time to donate, if you would like to help out, please go to this web page: onecau.se/bfsanta

REAL ID

How far down the RMV list of possible documents must a person go to meet government requirements for that “real ID” star on a driver’s license? Easier for young people on the move to produce a passport these days. Today’s gospel (Matt 11:2-11) has an imprisoned John, the Baptist, send disciples to check Jesus’ credentials: “*Are you the one ... or should we look for another?*” Jesus’ documentation: his deeds (curing the blind, lame, lepers, deaf) and words (good news preached to the poor), correspond to Isaiah’s prophecies (Isa 35:1-6a, 10) that God will come with salvation.

Why the question? Had the Baptist himself been unsettled by imprisonment and Jesus’ withdrawal back to Galilee from preaching in Judah (Matt 4:12)? Or was John anticipating his own execution by Herod Antipas, who ruled Galilee, and hoping to redirect his disciples to Jesus? Jesus adds a warning that his own fate will present a greater challenge than the Baptist’s, “*Blessed the one who takes no offense at me*”. Like prophets before him, John dies for speaking truth about the immortality of kings. Surely God’s coming messiah could not be so easily dispatched.

Jesus then directs attention to his forerunner. First asking what drew crowds to seek him out? Not royal pomp and circumstance, but something not seen for four centuries, a prophet from God! And, the Baptist’s “real ID” documentation is a Scripture quotation that combines Exod 23:20 and Mal 3:1 where the “messenger” is an angelic figure who goes before and guides God’s people. Early Jewish tradition saw in Mal. 3:1 a reference to the prophet Elijah’s return before the day of judgment. So, Christians would add Elijah to the Baptist’s ID. Yet for all that praise filling out the proof of residence form is a problem. Elijah (and Moses) appeared at Jesus’ Transfiguration (Matt 17:1-8). How can Jesus insist that “*the least in the Kingdom of Heaven is greater*” than the Baptist (v. 11)? To encourage the “little ones” listening seek the Kingdom, not crossing John off the heavenly banquet Evite list.

Pheme Perkins, Ph.D.
Joseph Professor
Of Catholic Spirituality
Boston College



Prayer Requests



Please email your prayer requests to:
GSPPRAYERS@GMAIL.COM

OR CALL :
(508) 650 - 3545 EXT. 11

**GOOD SHEPHERD PARISH
PRAYER LINE:**



As a faith community, we’re here to share in each others’ experiences and to lift each other in prayer. Whatever you’re facing – whether it’s a cause for joy, a challenge weighing you down, or a particular intention you’re holding close to your heart – we want to join you in prayer.

EPIPHANY PAGEANT CELEBRATION

All children in grades K-5 are invited to participate in the **Epiphany Pageant!**

At St. Ann’s Sunday Mass, January 4th,
10:30 AM.

For sign-up & details scan QR.



DAILY MASS SCHEDULE

(ADJUSTMENTS WHILE FR. FLEMING IS AWAY)

MONDAY 9 AM @ ST. ANN

WEDNESDAY, THURSDAY, FRIDAY

9 AM @ ST. ZEPHERIN

No Daily Mass on Tuesdays
December 16th, 23rd, and 30th



GOOD SHEPHERD PARISH

MASS SCHEDULES

CHRISTMAS EVE MASSES

4:00 PM

ST ZEPHERIN

4:15 PM ST ANN

5:30 PM

ST ZEPHERIN

CHRISTMAS DAY MASS

10:00 AM ST ANN

RECONCILIATION

SATURDAYS

3:00 -3:45 PM

ST ANN CHURCH

PARISH PENANCE SERVICE

FOLLOWED BY ADORATION

THURS 12/18 @ 7:00 PM

ST ZEPHERIN CHURCH

THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY

MONDAY 12/8

9:00 AM ST ANN

7:00 PM
ST ZEPHERIN

New Year's Day SOLEMNITY OF MARY, MOST HOLY MOTHER OF GOD

9:00 AM
ST ZEPHERIN

7:00 PM
ST ANN



PENITENTIAL ACT

Priest, deacon, or cantor, then all:

(Invocation)

1. Lord, have mer - cy.
2. Christ, have mer - cy.
3. Lord, have mer - cy.

Priest: May almighty God...everlasting life.

Assembly:

A - men.

Music: *Mass of the Angels and Saints*, Steven R. Janco, © 1996, GIA Publications, Inc.

Advent Gospel Acclamation

Jay Maenhout

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia,
al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

HOLY, HOLY, HOLY

Ho - ly, Ho - ly, Ho - ly Lord God of hosts.
Heav'n and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho -
san - na, ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the
high - est, ho - san - na, ho - san - na, ho -
san - na in the high - est. Bless - ed is he who comes in the
name of the Lord. Ho - san - na, ho -
san - na, ho - san - na in the high - est, ho -
san - na, ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the high - est.

Text: ICEL, © 2010
Music: *Mass of the Angels and Saints*, Steven R. Janco, © 1996, 2010, GIA Publications, Inc.

MEMORIAL ACCLAMATION A

We pro - claim your Death, O Lord, and pro -
fess your Res - ur - rec - tion un - til you come a - gain.

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AMEN

A - men, a - men, a - men.
A - men, a - men, a - men.

Music: *Mass of the Angels and Saints*, Steven R. Janco, © 1996, GIA Publications, Inc.

LAMB OF GOD

Cantor: Have mer - cy on us. *All:* Have mer - cy on us. *Repeat ad lib.*
Cantor: Grant us peace. *All:* Grant us peace.

Music: *Mass of the Angels and Saints*, Steven R. Janco, © 1996, GIA Publications, Inc.



THE TABERNACLE
CANDLES
BURN
IN LOVING MEMORY
OF
ANNE MEDEIROS
DEC. 5 - 11, 2025
NATHAN MOORE
DEC. 12 - 18, 2025
**JOHN & MARY ELLEN
JOHNSON**
DEC. 19 - 25, 2025



I AM THE LIGHT OF THE WORLD.
JOHN 8:12

PSALM 146: LORD, COME AND SAVE US

Advent 3A

Bob Hurd



Lord, come and save us.

Lord, come and save us.

1. It is the LORD who preserves fidelity forever,
who does justice to those who are oppressed.
It is he who gives bread to the hungry,
the LORD who sets pris'ners free.
2. The LORD who opens the eyes of the blind,
the LORD who raises up those
who are bowed down.

- It is the LORD who loves the just,
the LORD who protects the stranger.
3. The LORD upholds the orphan
and the widow,
but thwarts the path of the wicked.
The LORD will reign forever,
the God of Sion from age to age.
Alleluia!

Text: Psalm 146:1b, 6-7, 8-9, 9-10; Isaiah 35:4; Matthew 5:3. Refrain © 1969, 1981, 1997, ICEL. All rights reserved.
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GOOD SHEPHERD SMALL GROUPS BEGIN 1/8/26

"THE CHOSEN" - SEASON 4 IS OUR SOURCE FOR THE WINTER SEASON.

JOIN US AS WE GROW OUR FAITH TOGETHER

FOR A PRAYERFUL ENCOUNTER WITH JESUS IN THE SCRIPTURES.

Register by

emailing Lisa Demartin @

thechosen.goodshepherd@yahoo.com

or call 617-605-9886



THURSDAYS 8:00-8:30 PM VIA ZOOM

JANUARY 8 TO FEBRUARY 26, 2026

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"Jesus Wept." John 11:35



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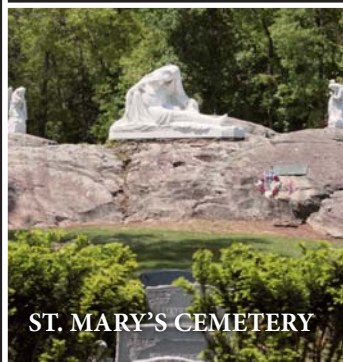
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St Mary's Cemetery in Needham, founded in the 1870's, is the parish cemetery of Mary Immaculate of Lourdes. The Cemetery is a reverent resting place for those awaiting reunion with the Risen Lord. The decision to pre-plan and purchase interment rights is a responsible and thoughtful gesture, sparing loved ones the stress of making difficult decisions during a time of grief and loss.

For information, call the cemetery staff at Mary Immaculate of Lourdes Church at **781-235-1841**.
St. Mary's Cemetery | 1 Wellesley Avenue,
Needham, MA 02494



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